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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: M HANNUKSELA  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned  
Filed: May 15, 2001  
For: VIDEO CODING  
Group: Not yet assigned  
Examiner: Not yet assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 15, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention is not intended to be limited to the video coding protocols discussed above: these are intended to be merely exemplary. The invention is applicable to any video coding protocol in which temporal prediction may be used. The addition of the information as discussed above allows a receiving decoder to determine that a reference picture has been lost and to take appropriate action. --

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